

SAY 4 INSPECTORS WERE PRISON PETS

Witnesses Also Tell Whitman of Gross Abuses at Blackwell's Island.

CHARGE NEGRO, ILL, DIED FROM NEGLECT

R. M. Hurd, Director of Prison Association, Volunteers Help and Tells of "Ice Box" Case.

Charges were made to the District Attorney yesterday that while the police inspectors who were convicted of a misdemeanor in conspiring to keep a witness out of the state received numerous favors at the hands of the authorities on Blackwell's Island, less distinguished prisoners were the victims of abuse and gross neglect. In a general way some of the charges made by former prisoners on the island were also corroborated yesterday by Richard M. Hurd, president of the Lawyers' Mortgage Company.

Neither Joseph Du Vivier, the Assistant District Attorney in charge of the investigation into alleged abuses on Blackwell's Island, nor Mr. Hurd felt at liberty to disclose the sources of his information further than to say that it came from former prisoners on the island. It was said that if the names of the informants were made known those who were still on the island would be subjected to further abuse and those who were at liberty would be hounded by the police.

It was a negro prisoner who told Mr. Du Vivier of the favoritism shown to the former police inspectors. Denis Greeney, James F. Thompson and John J. Murtha, he said, were on Blackwell's Island, while James E. Hussey had been transferred to Randall's Island at the time Mr. Du Vivier's informant was in the penitentiary.

Police Got Favors.

The three who were still in the penitentiary, he said, were permitted to see numerous visitors in the "administration hall." They were supplied daily with several newspapers. Their meals were not of the same quality as those served to the other prisoners' meals. Generally they ate with the keepers and deputy wardens. They appeared to have the run of the penitentiary at night, he said. Often when the negro and his fellow unfortunate prisoners were locked in their cells for the night he saw one or all of the three ex-inspectors strolling through the corridors, sometimes arm in arm with a keeper.

The negro also called Mr. Du Vivier's attention to a third death in the penitentiary. It was that of a negro, Frank Willis. He was confined in a cell on the top tier and complained of illness. In spite of his complaints, he received no medical attention. Mr. Du Vivier was told. At last his condition became so desperate that he threatened to jump over the railing and commit suicide unless he was moved to another cell and given some attention.

He was moved to the first tier. Mr. Du Vivier was told, and later to the infirmary, where he died within a few hours after his arrival. Mr. Du Vivier will ask for the penitentiary records dealing with this case. He has the names of four men who are said to have immediate knowledge of the matter.

Hurd Volunteers Help.

Richard M. Hurd is a director of the Prison Association of New York. He visited Blackwell's Island with O. F. Lewis, general secretary of the association, in the latter part of September. Mr. Hurd said yesterday that while he did not feel at liberty to talk as a representative of the Prison Association, he was willing to tell of his personal experience and to do all in his power to help the District Attorney.

Mr. Hurd said that he found it difficult to get information from prisoners on the island because of the terror in which they stood of the keepers, and even of their fellow prisoners who might "sneak" on them. He drew one young prisoner aside, he said, and was drawing a few reluctant answers from him, when the boy looked over his shoulder and whispered: "I can't tell you any more. I'll get the cooler for this. I can see Warden Hayes over there laughing at me."

"There seems to be an atmosphere of terror hanging over the penitentiary," said Mr. Hurd yesterday.

In spite of the order issued by Patrick A. Whitney, Commissioner of Correction, on June 28, abolishing the dark cells, Mr. Hurd and Mr. Lewis found two men in a light-tight cell—an "ice box." Mr. Hurd called it during their visit. One of them was a young Italian, who had been in the place but two or three hours. He was huddled in a corner sobbing when the door was opened.

"Ice Box" Treatment Severe.

Blinking and sobbing, he said that he had been put there for whispering. The second prisoner was an older man, and had been in the "ice box" for ten or twelve hours. He was in a stupor, and he was several minutes before he could be aroused. "Where am I?" were the only words they could get from this man even after he had been prodded into consciousness.

A doctor, of whom Mr. Hurd sought information, acknowledged that he occasionally visited the "ice boxes" to see how the prisoners were standing the treatment. He "supposed" that they got the regular allowance of water. On his visits he did not enter the cell to take the temperature or pulse of the prisoners. He was able to "size them up," he said, by standing at the entrance.

Mr. Du Vivier is looking up two suits that have been filed against the city as the result of death and injury alleged to have resulted from neglect in public institutions. One suit for \$25,000 was filed by Mathias Konyakovsky. His daughter, Valeria, only nine months old, was sent to the Riverside Hospital on April 24. She was sent there despite the protests of her parents, he alleges. She had measles.

Little Girl Victim.

On May 8 he alleges that he discovered that she had a broken arm and had contracted an infectious disease while in the institution. He removed her and engaged his own physician. The child died on May 20.

Suit has also been brought in behalf of a nineteen-year-old boy who contracted serious eye trouble in the Tombs. It is alleged that he was confined in the same cell with a man suffering from an infectious disease, and that it was communicated to him through the laxness of the officials in the Tombs.

On Monday Arthur C. Train, Assistant District Attorney, expects to see a former manager of the office of the Commis-

sioner of Accounts, who is said to have made a report on conditions on Blackwell's Island. The report, it is said, was suppressed, and the examiner lost his job.

NEW PENSION PLAN

Teachers' College Trustees to Aid Old Instructors.

With the object of taking care of professors on the staff of colleges who are not eligible to receive benefits from the Carnegie Foundation, the trustees of Teachers' College of Columbia University have devised a mutual benefit plan. It is designed to benefit those teachers who enter the services of the college when more than thirty years old, and paves the way for their retirement at reduced pay when they reach the age of sixty-three.

The plan which Dean Russell and the trustees have worked out calls for graduated contributions, the rate of the annual contribution of the individual being fixed by his age at that time. By this plan a man entering the service at the age of thirty would pay an annual premium of 1.70 per cent, at thirty-five of 2.30 per cent, at forty of 3.20 per cent, at forty-five of 4.30 per cent, at fifty of 5.80 per cent, and at fifty-five of 7.50 per cent, with retirement at the age of sixty-three. The rates for the intervening ages are graduated on the same scale.

The college trustees agree to duplicate all contributions, and the fund thus arising will guarantee to each participant an annual income of 20 per cent of his salary. It is Dean Russell's plan to increase this to 30 per cent by endowment funds and gifts.

NEED NEW POOR LAWS

Peekskill Board of Trade Asks Legislature to Act.

Following an investigation into the methods of poor relief in the town of Cortlandt, Westchester County, the Peekskill Board of Trade has adopted a resolution asking the Westchester Board of Supervisors and the county's legislative representatives to urge the Governor and the Legislature to revise the poor laws so that they would more nearly meet present day needs.

The committee of the Board of Trade which made the investigation reported that 20 per cent of the money expended in poor relief in Cortlandt could be saved, at the same time giving more humane and efficient care to the town's dependents. The committee believes that similar conditions exist not only in other towns of the county, but also in other counties. Its report stated that, in the opinion of the committee, the poor laws of the state "are antiquated, inefficient and expensive in their administration and wholly unadapted to modern conditions and needs."

ROBINSON FUNERAL SIMPLE

Episcopal Prelates Officiate at Service for Bishop.

The funeral of the Right Rev. Henry Douglas Robinson, Bishop of Nevada, was held yesterday afternoon in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The service was simple, consisting of the first part only of the Church funeral service, and was conducted by Bishop David H. Greer, of New York; Bishop Arthur Selden Lloyd, president of the Board of Missions; Suffragan Bishop Charles S. Burch, of New York, and Dean Grosvenor, of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. They also were pallbearers.

The body was sent to Racine, Wis., where after the committal service it will be buried at the school of which Bishop Robinson was formerly head master.

ROSE IS BLOOMING FOR OUR JULIUS

"Jolly, Domesticated" Nurse Sends Kisses and Bids for His Hand.

Sheriff Harbarger, who has several children and ten grandchildren, received yesterday from Miss Rose Scott, of Homerton Grove, Homerton, England, this letter:

"Dear Unknown Friend: Pardon the liberty I am taking in writing to you. At present I am living in a hospital as nurse, and I feel lately that I should like a home of my own, and have been looking for some time for a nice young man who would make a suitable husband.

"I am twenty-one years old and thoroughly domesticated. I can cook, sew and wash, and am always considered a jolly, bright and healthy girl, never having had an illness in my life. I am musical and very fond of riding. I cycle a lot at present, and have always had a desire to go abroad. Trusting this will meet with your approval, yours respectfully,

ROSE SCOTT.

P. S.—If you approve of me kindly answer my letter. Should love you to honor me with your photo, for which I return I should be pleased to send you one of mine."

At the end of the postscript were written three "X's" to indicate kisses.

Sheriff Harbarger answered Miss Scott, saying he would turn her letter over to some eligible young bachelor in his office.

MARINES RESENT NEW NAVY PLANS

Officers Dissatisfied with Redistribution Scheme for Corps.

FEAR ARMY WILL TAKE THEIR PLACE

Result May Be a Movement to Transfer the Marines Entirely from the Navy.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 20.—There is much dissatisfaction among officers of the United States Marine Corps over the plan being adopted by the Navy Department for a redistribution of the marine forces, and particularly the withdrawal of marines from the Philippines and Panama.

It is feared that this redistribution may come to mean that the marines will lose their function as the force which is always sent first to a trouble zone and that their place will be taken by the army. There is also fear that the change may be a part of what will prove to be a scheme for getting the marines off the ships of the navy, a proposal which has been mooted before and which it is known has the warm support of some of the Secretary of the Navy's closest advisers.

There is a distinct sentiment among marine officers that if the functions of the corps are to be impaired they would much rather sever connection with the navy entirely and become a part of the army, as has frequently been suggested. It is not believed, however, that the navy would permit such a thing, for it is believed that a majority of naval officers want the marines to remain a part of the navy.

Officers predict that if the marines are pressed too far there will be developed an anti-navy sentiment which will quickly crystallize into a demand that the marines be placed with the army. It is well known that the marines are possessed of much political influence in Congress, and if they once start on a campaign of the sort it will be difficult for the navy to block their efforts.

May Benefit the Corps.

The redistribution of the marines under the present plan may be beneficial to the corps. Under the new scheme greater bodies of marines will be assembled in certain places and this will give opportunity for military training which cannot be had with marines scattered through the various navy yards and elsewhere. At the same time, the marines do not relish surrendering certain functions and duties which have hitherto been theirs alone, as will certainly be the case, in the opinion of those who know conditions, when the new plan of distribution is put through.

The truth seems to be that this new scheme is being invoked as an alternative to an increase in the marine corps. The assembling of considerable numbers of marines in certain places is of obvious advantage, and has been recommended by many marines, but to do this involves either a slight increase in the corps or the withdrawal of marines from far away posts where they have proved their value. The administration of the Navy Department apparently desires no increase in the corps.

In modern times the American marine's duties have become varied and multitudinous. It was the marine who protected the American Legation in Peking and the marine who looked after American interests in Nicaragua, chastising a belligerent and unfriendly faction into a condition of amity and orderliness. The marine has been the man first on the spot, and all services have admitted his predominance in this field of work, as well as his efficiency.

It seems certain that one of the results of the present order will be that the army will get the bulk of so-called "expeditionary" work in Central America. It is intended to withdraw the marines from Panama and leave the army there. One regiment of infantry is already in the zone. In time of trouble in Central America the army will doubtless be called on, on account of its proximity.

China presents another field where the work heretofore done by the marine will be turned over to the army. If the marine detachment at Peking is reduced to 100 men, as planned, and if trouble again breaks out in China, as is believed likely, there will be no chance of reinforcing the marine guard at Peking with the force in the Philippines removed. Trouble in Peking would call for at least 300 men inside the legation quarter and about 60 among the American missions in the Chinese capital. This work in future will fall to the army, and the marine garrison there will become an army post.

Daniels Tells of Plans.

Following publication in The Tribune this morning of the plan of redistribution, Secretary Daniels issued the following statement:

"Orders are to be issued which will

gradually put in effect plans for the distribution and employment of the marine corps recently recommended by the General Board of the navy and approved by Secretary Daniels.

"This involves the reduction of the number of marines in the Philippines, at Pearl Harbor and Panama to a force just sufficient to guard the property under the control of the Navy Department; also a slight decrease in the legation guard at Peking when conditions in China will warrant.

"The marine brigade in the Philippines consists at present of nearly 900 men, and this force will eventually be reduced to about 150 men, which is a suitable number for duty as a guard for the grounds and buildings at the naval stations at Olongapo and Cavite.

"These changes are made in order that men may be available for the establishment of advance base stations, where large bodies of marines will be concentrated and kept ready for instant service whenever they may be required.

"No change will be made in the details of marines to battleships of the fleet.

"The final detail for marines to foreign stations will be as follows: Pearl Harbor, Panama and Guantanamo, 100 men each; Olongapo and Cavite, 150 men."

AR, WER, HAV, NOW MAKE THEIR DEBUT

Carnegie's Spelling Vivisection Disturb the Christmas Peace.

Is was has
Ar wer hav
This is not a poem in Esperanto or a Christmas ditty in Volapuk (not Volapuk). Nor have The Tribune's composers and proofreaders gone on strike. (They may after they see another "take" of this.) Could you blame them? Read

on from "The Simplified Spelling Bulletin":

"In the Fourth List the Simplified Spelling Board and the Advisory Council, acting, as they have good reason to believe, with the approval of the great body of their supporters, formally recommend the permanent adoption of the simplified spellings *ar*, *wer* and *hav*. These words recur without end; and once the hand gets used to omitting the dead final *e*, the neatness and convenience of the short (and true) forms become evident.

"One incidental advantage every typewriter and printer will appreciate. In revising typewritten or printed matter it is often necessary to change from singular to plural, or from plural to singular. To substitute, on a typewriter or a printed page, *are* for *is*, or *were* for *was*, or *have* for *has*, one must fill up the empty space left after the *is*, *was* or *has*, or else re-space the adjacent words. Now, *is* and *was* and *wer*, *has* and *hav*, *have* the

same number of letters, and either the singular or the plural can be substituted for the other without disturbing the adjacent types or typesetting.

"A similar gain would be seen if we could persuade ourselves to bring other words of three or four sounds into spellings of three or four letters, that would pair in a similar way—if, for example, *could*, *should*, *would* and *might* were thus brought into even length with their presents, *can*, *shall*, *will*, *may*.

"If printers and compositors were allowed to use some simplified spellings they would soon seize upon this advantage. In the long run there would be a positive reduction in the cost of press correction."

"Nothing is said about a 'positiv inkres' in nausea and profanity."

Gould's Chauffeur Fined \$25.

Frederick Palmer, chauffeur for George J. Gould, was fined \$25 in the Jefferson Market court yesterday on a charge of exceeding the automobile speed limit.

On Friday next, December 26th, and until further notice, the Store will be opened daily at 9 A. M.

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THE FOLLOWING SALES HAVE BEEN PREPARED FOR TO-MORROW (MONDAY):

Women's Tailored Separate Skirts

in the latest models, made of choice wool plaids, will offer an unusual opportunity . . . at \$6.50

Fine French Lingerie

is shown in new importations which include the latest novelties as well as the more conservative and moderately priced models.

A special selection, to be placed on sale to-morrow, will be as follows:

Chemises	at \$1.00
Drawers	at 1.25
Night Robes	at 1.75
Princess Slips	at 2.95

Women's Petticoats

at special prices, will comprise

Wool Jersey-Top Petticoats, with flounce of messaline at \$3.75

Messaline Petticoats, in changeable color effects at \$3.50

A Sale of Silk Hosiery

will attract attention at the following price concessions:

Women's Black Silk Hose, usual prices \$1.00 & \$1.50 per pair	at 70c. & \$1.00
Women's Black or White Silk Hose, with openwork insteps; usual price \$3.00 per pair, at	\$2.25
Women's Black or White Silk Hose, with embroidered insteps; usual price \$4.50 per pair	at \$3.25

Women's Evening Slippers

(range of sizes incomplete), will be placed on sale in the Shoe Department, on the Second Floor, commencing to-morrow (Monday), at the following prices:

Slippers regularly sold at \$6.00 to 8.00 per pair	at \$3.25
Slippers regularly sold at \$4.00 to 6.00 per pair	at \$2.75

Men's and Women's Twilled Silk Umbrellas

sizes 26 and 28 inches, with novelty handles in a variety of styles, regularly sold at \$5.00, will be marked . . . at \$3.50

The Fur Department

Unusual Values are being offered in a number of

Fur Garments and Fur Sets, decided reductions in prices having been made in order to effect a speedy clearance.

The offering comprises the following:

Women's Fur Sets

(consisting of Muff and Neckpiece) of the following desired furs:

Hudson Bay Sable Fisher
Colored Fox Colored Moleskin

also Sets composed of smart fur combinations.

Women's Fur and Fur-lined Coats and Wraps
Men's Fur-lined Overcoats

Women's and Misses' Riding Habits

finely tailored in meltons and tweeds, in styles for side- and cross-saddle riding. Special . . . at \$25.00

Embroidered Fancy Articles (Imported)

in a very attractive selection, will be on sale in the Fancy Needlework Department, on the Fourth Floor, at special prices.

Hand-embroidered Lingerie Glove Cases, usually \$4.00 . . . at \$2.85

Hand-embroidered Lingerie Handkerchief Cases, usually \$3.00 . . . at \$1.75

Hand-embroidered Linen Pillow Cases, lace-trimmed, with down-filled Pillow covered in blue or pink silk; usually sold (complete) at \$5.25 to 8.00 . . . at \$3.50 to 5.75

Handkerchief Boxes, Veil Boxes, and Hat-pin Cushions, covered with linen embroidered in colors:

Handkerchief Boxes, usually \$1.25, at 85c.
Veil Boxes, usually \$1.50 . . . at \$1.10
Hat-pin Cushions, usually \$1.00, . . . at 65c.

A Late Importation of Paris Gowns

for Afternoon and Evening wear is now being exhibited in the Department on the Third Floor.

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